



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

19 May 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

The Special Group (Counter-Insurgency) has agreed to the attached 18 key definitions in the field of counter-insurgency. In order to insure requisite uniformity in subsequent literature bearing on counter-insurgency, it is requested that you circulate this glossary, as required, within your department.

  
MAXWELL D. TAYLOR

Honorable John A. McCone  
Director of Central Intelligence

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GLOSSARY OF COUNTERINSURGENCY TERMS

**CLANDESTINE OPERATION** -- Activities to accomplish intelligence, counter-intelligence, and other similar activities sponsored or conducted by governmental departments or agencies, in such a way as to assure secrecy or concealment.

**COLD WAR** -- A state of international tension, wherein political, economic, technological, sociological, psychological, paramilitary, and military measures short of overt armed conflict involving regular military forces are employed to achieve national objectives.

**COUNTERGUERRILLA WARFARE** -- Operations and activities conducted by armed forces, paramilitary forces, or nonmilitary agencies of a government against guerrillas.

**COUNTERINSURGENCY** -- Those military, paramilitary, political, economic, psychological, and civic actions taken by a government to defeat subversive insurgency.

**COUNTERINTELLIGENCE** -- That aspect of intelligence activity which is devoted to destroying the effectiveness of inimical foreign intelligence activities and to the protection of information against espionage, individuals against subversion, and installations or material against sabotage.

**COVERT OPERATIONS** -- Operations which are so planned and executed as to conceal the identity of or permit plausible denial by the sponsor. They differ from clandestine operations in that emphasis is placed on concealment of identity of sponsor rather than on concealment of the operation.

**EVASION AND ESCAPE (E&E)** -- The procedures and operations whereby military personnel and other selected individuals are enabled to emerge from an enemy-held or hostile area to areas under friendly control.

**GUERRILLA** -- A combat participant in guerrilla warfare.

**GUERRILLA WARFARE (GW)** -- Military and paramilitary operations conducted in enemy-held or hostile territory by irregular, predominantly indigenous forces.

**INSURGENCY** -- A condition resulting from a revolt or insurrection against a constituted government which falls short of civil war. In the current context, subversive insurgency is primarily communist inspired, supported, or exploited.

**INTERNAL DEFENSE** -- The full range of measures taken by a government to protect its society from subversion, lawlessness, and insurgency.

**INTERNAL SECURITY** -- The state of law and order prevailing within a nation.

**MILITARY CIVIC ACTION** -- The use of preponderantly indigenous military forces on projects useful to the local population at all levels in such fields as education, training, public works, agriculture, transportation, communications, health, sanitation and others contributing to economic and social development, which would also serve to improve the standing of the military forces with the population. (US forces may at times advise or engage in military civic actions in overseas areas.)

**PARAMILITARY FORCES** -- Forces or groups which are distinct from the regular armed forces of any country, but resembling them in organization, equipment, training, or mission.

**PARAMILITARY OPERATION** -- An operation undertaken by a paramilitary force.

**PROPAGANDA** -- Any information, ideas, doctrines, or special appeals in support of national objectives, designed to influence the opinions, emotions, attitudes, or behavior of any specified group in order to benefit the sponsor, either directly or indirectly.

**BLACK** -- Propaganda which purports to emanate from a source other than the true one.

**GREY** -- Propaganda which does not specifically identify any source.

**WHITE** -- Propaganda disseminated and acknowledged by the sponsor or by an accredited agency thereof.

**PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE** -- The planned use of propaganda and other psychological actions having the primary purpose of influencing the opinions, emotions, attitudes, and behavior of hostile foreign groups in such a way as to support the achievement of national objectives.

**SUBVERSION** -- Action designed to undermine the military, economic, psychological, morale, or political strength of a regime.